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SUBJECT: MISSION STRATEGIC PLANS

FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY LEW FOR CHIEFS OF MISSION, DCMS
AND USAID MISSION DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Revised Timing for Launch of the FY 2012
Mission Strategic Plan(MSP)

¶1. Summary. The FY 2012 MSP launch, initially planned for early December, has been delayed to provide additional time to revise the MSP process, guidance, and content. End Summary.

¶2. State and USAID recently completed phase one of the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR). A key initial finding points to the need for reform in the annual planning processes to establish greater linkage among policy objectives, resource requests, program information and performance impacts. Continued work by the QDDR team to review all State and USAID planning processes over the coming months will result in further recommendations for integration of multiple planning processes aimed at greater efficiency and efficacy. The FY 2012 MSP is the first planning process to be revised.

¶3. Revisions to the current MSP process and guidance will be issued in the coming month. Key components will include: (1) clear guidance outlining the foreign policy priorities of the Secretary; (2) realistic resource planning parameters; (3) increased linkages between proposed programs, resource levels, and performance outcomes. The goal of these first planning reforms is to provide greater clarity into how policy, program and resource decisions are being evaluated, proposed, and determined.

¶4. RM/SPP will keep posts apprised of further developments and timeline through regular communication via MSP coordinators. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in preparing for the FY 2012 MSP cycle. The point of contact continues to be the shared mailbox at sppmsp@state.gov in RM/SPP.

¶5. Minimize considered.
CLINTON